

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Editor - - SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 47.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH, 1916.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer,
Dr. Tcheykovsky, Langham House,
Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec.,
Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford
Road, Bow, E.

All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road,
Bow, E.

E.L.F.S. FIXTURES.

Friday, Feb. 11th.

Mount Rd., 12.30 p.m., Miss M. Price.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss
Gore Booth, Mrs. Drake.
Beckton Rd., 7 p.m., Mrs. Walker.
Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., "Par-
liament."

Saturday, Feb. 12th.

Well St. & Morning Lane, 11 a.m.,
Mrs. Bouvier.
Grundy St., 3.30 p.m., Mr. Mackinlay,
Mrs. Drake.

Morpeth St., 3.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Sunday, Feb. 13th.

Osborne St., 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Boyce,
Miss Lynch.
The Grove, Stratford, 12 o'clock Mrs.
Bouvier.

Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Miss Somers,
Mrs. Leigh Rothwell.

Bow Women's Hall, 7.30 p.m. (East
London Branch of the W.I.L.),
Lady Margaret Sackville, Mrs.
Hobhouse. Chair: Mrs. Drake.

Monday, Feb. 14th.

175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Mrs. McLeod.
"Whitehouse," 4.30 p.m., Miss Lynch,
Miss Beamish.

Tuesday, Feb. 15th.

Grundy St., 11 a.m., Miss Lynch.
Whitcross St., 12.30 p.m., Mrs.
Bouvier.

Bow Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss
Roper, Miss Lynch.

"Clock Tower," Coult's Rd., 6.30 p.m.,
Miss Feek.

Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Miss
Mary Richardson.

Wednesday, Feb. 16th.

53 St. Leonard St., 3.30 p.m., Miss
M. Price.

Chrip St., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake.

Thursday, Feb. 17th.

55 Fife Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Theodora
Wilson Wilson.

175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Mr. C. Gray.

Friday, Feb. 18th.

Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs.
McLeod, Mrs. Drake.

Beckton Rd., 4.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Saturday, Feb. 19th.

Fairbairn Hall, 310 Barking Rd., 3 to
6 p.m., Children's Party.

Grundy St., 3 p.m., Miss Rickards,
Mrs. Drake.

Vernon Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Sunday, Feb. 20th.

Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Boyce,
Mrs. Walker.

Poplar Women's Hall, 7.30 p.m., Mr.
C. H. Norman on "Crimes of the
Government," Miss Dorothy
Matthew, Chair: Mrs. Drake.

MOTHERS AND BABIES.

The calls on our four mother and
baby centres, for milk, eggs, medicines,
and doctoring and nursing care, are
still very urgent. Will you help by
sending us some money for this work?

Will you send us new laid eggs,
arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?

We want:—For baby, four gowns, four
barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins,
three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother,
two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three
towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

Mother and Children should
make a point of attending the
weekly consultations with nurse
and doctor at:—

400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, Mondays
2.30 p.m.; 20 Railway St., Poplar, Tues-
days 3 p.m.; 53 St. Leonard's St.,
Tuesdays 2 p.m.; 55 Fife Rd., Canning
Town, Tuesdays, 4 p.m.

Order the DREADNOUGHT through
your Newsagent; see that he
stocks it, and shows a Poster!

THE GROWTH of the SLAVE STATE.

Austrian Conscript Workers.

Labour Conscription for men up
to 55 has existed in Austria since
January 21st, and workers are being
compelled by the State to fill the
gaps created by the conscription of
men for the Army.

The *Arbeiter Zeitung*, the Vienna
Socialist paper, states that private
employers have a free hand to exploit
the workers, as there are no safe-
guards.

British Controlled Workers.

The decree states that men called
up for personal service and employed
on Government work by private con-
tractors, may not leave their employ-
ment during the War.

The *Manchester Guardian* declares
that "the Austria-Hungary conscript
worker is the most helpless of all,"
and in support of this statement says
that even the German war workers
are safeguarded by "a close Govern-
ment control of their pay and work-
ing time, and by an unlimited right
of appeal to joint Boards, composed
of equal numbers of employers and
employees, which act as arbitration
as well as conciliation committees."

It may be that the *Manchester
Guardian* is right in asserting that
the position of the worker in Austria-
Hungary is worse than that of his
fellow in Germany; but a "close
Government control of wages" is
frequently most unsatisfactory, as
British workers have found!

We must point out that, unfortu-
nately, the British workers, unlike the
Germans, have not "unlimited right
of appeal to local joint boards com-
posed of equal numbers of employers
and employed." The British Local
Labour Advisory Boards which are
only now being set up, are without
power and their mission is to assist
the dilution of labour, not to deal
with rates of wages. Indeed, the
Munitions Act has made it impossible
for wages to be raised, except by con-
sent of the Ministry of Munitions.
This consent the Government has
plainly stated that, in general, it is a
part of their policy, not to give.

British Munitions Tribunals cannot
be said to be composed, like the Ger-
man Boards, of equal representatives
of employers and employed, for
though there are assessors who re-
present them, the decision rests with
the President of the Tribunal, who is
appointed by Lloyd George. It is
not the business of the Munitions
Tribunals to deal with rates of wages,
and however scandalously sweated
the workers may be, these tribunals
refuse to allow them to leave their
employment on that ground.

Lloyd George Fixes Women's Sweated Wages.

At the Manchester Munitions Court
on February 3rd, a woman worker at
a Salford munition factory, applied
for a certificate of discharge, on the
ground that she was not being paid a
reasonable wage. She said that she
had never received more than 12s. 4d.
from this firm for a 61½ hour week,
though when doing similar work in
Hull, she could make £1.

The firm's representative said that
the woman was engaged at 10s. for a
50½ hour week, which is less than 2½d.
per hour, and received a 7½ per cent.
War bonus. By working 61½ hours,
he said that she could make 13s. 1d.,
not 12s. 4d.

Mr. P. Atkins, the President of the
Tribunal, refused to grant the dis-
charge certificate, and added insult
to injury by saying that the worker
was receiving "fair remuneration."

The last Munitions Act gave the
Minister of Munitions, Mr. Lloyd
George, the power to fix the rates of
pay to women in munition factories.

The Manchester Women's War
Interests Committee has repeatedly
called the attention of Mr. Lloyd
George to cases of scandalous sweat-
ing, but without success. They have
secured an admission from Dr.
Addison at the Munitions Office that
the average wage earned by the
women of the district who gave up
employment in cotton and other
factories, to undertake munitioneer-
ing, was 5d. an hour, and that these
women are only getting an average
wage of 3d. an hour.

Yet Mr. Lloyd George still refuses
to act!

Wearing Out the Workers.

A Government committee, to dis-
cover whether the long working day
is injuring the health of the indus-
trial workers in such a way as to re-
duce their output, has deliberated, and
has reported that hours of work must
be strictly limited. Nevertheless
so far from hours being shortened,
the lengthening process is extended.

The Home Secretary has given
permission for women in lace fac-
tories to be employed from 8 a.m. to
1 p.m., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., or 10 a.m. to
10 p.m., or even from 6 a.m. to 9
p.m., if there are breaks in the work-
ing day which reduce it to ten hours.

Women whose work begins at 6
and ends at 9, must frequently rise
at 4 or 4.30, and cannot get to bed
before 11 or 12 p.m., a few breaks in
the day will not compensate them
for the broken night. Moreover

everyone knows that it is exceed-
ingly difficult to prevent breaches of
the factory rules under ordinary
circumstances. When an employer
can break the working day up as he
chooses between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.,
it will be next to impossible to insure
that the actual working hours are
limited to ten per day—and the
Home Office officials very certainly
know this!

A Munition Worker's Complaint.

A woman munitioneer whose health
broke down, has written to the *Even-
ing News* giving the following reasons
for her illness:—

Too long hours (continuous work for
twelve hours).

A walk of nearly two miles from the fac-
tory gates to the shed through mud ankle
deep, and, part of the way, over railway
sleepers. Very dangerous in the dark.

No ventilation. Work all the time in
foul air.

No opportunity to get proper food. Meals
have to be taken in, and eaten in a bad
atmosphere.

This woman contracted diphtheria at the
workshop. She says that the men are
better treated than the women employees,
and while the latter have to walk to their
shops, the men ride.

HUMAN SUFFRAGE.

We should be glad to receive letters
from our readers embodying their
views on the subject of human suffrage
—a vote for every woman and man
over 21 years of age.

SUNDAY MEETING,

February 13th, 7.30 p.m.

BOW WOMEN'S HALL,
400 Old Ford Road.

Speakers:

The LADY MARGARET SACKVILLE,
Mrs. HOBHOUSE.

Chair: Mrs. DRAKE

Songs: Mr. CHANDLER.

Admission: 2d.

WHO WAS BEING TRIED?

Behind closed doors and windows a trial
in camera took place at the Court of
Criminal Appeal recently.

THE GAG!

Organ of Clyde Workers Banned.

The *Worker*, has been suppressed.
Walter Bell, William Gallacher
and John Muir were arrested at
Glasgow on the 8th, inst., for publish-
ing it.

They were indicted before Baillie
Morton for

"Having in Glasgow attempted to cause
mutiny, sedition, or disaffection amongst
the civil population, and to impede, delay, or
restrict the production of war material by
producing, printing, and circulating among
the workers in and around Glasgow em-
ployed on war material, a newspaper entitled
the *Worker*."

Bail was refused.

The suppressed paper contains an
article on the Clyde Workers' Com-
mittee, which explains that the Muni-
tions Act was the cause which brought
the Committee into being. The
Committee's policy is described as
"purely defensive," and it is explained
as follows:—

"If a worker, or workers, in any particular
yard or shop got into trouble through this
industrial invasion, and that yard or shop
decided to defend him or them by 'down-
ing tools,' then we were pledged to do all in
our power to get the other yards in the
Clyde area to 'down tools' along with
them. So is there anything wrong with
that? Surely not. A policy of this kind
with half decent organisation, so far from
creating trouble will effectively prevent it.
For proof of that we need, only say that
since the Committee has got 'well under
way' there has been no repetition of the
brutal and cowardly attack that was made
on the workers when the Fairfield Ship-
wrights were thrown into prison. The men
at the back of the Act know they cannot
operate it while the workers are prepared to
stand by one another. Therefore, we say
never hesitate for a moment to line up with
any of your comrades who are in difficulties.
You never know when your own turn may
come."

Miners Urged to Resist.

An article entitled "What About
the Miners?" declares that a majority
of the Scottish miners, especially in
Lanarkshire and Fifeshire, are
opposed to Conscription. Even in
the Lothians, which are less solid on
the question, there are said to be
"many individuals who will resist
Conscription to the end, and it will
be no easy matter to fetch them."

An understanding is called for
between the Scottish miners and
the Clyde workers:—

"At the very earliest the Military Service
Bill will not come into full operation for
four weeks from now, and in that time it
ought to be, and is, possible to arrive at an
arrangement between the miners and the
munition workers, whereby common action
would be agreed upon to enforce the with-
drawal of the Bill or repeal of the Act. That
this is no impossible task is proved by (1)
the miners' refusal to accept the Munitions
Act, and (2) the amendment of the Munitions
Act following the agitation by the men on
the Clyde. These two facts prove that the
miners and the munition workers have
power if they will combine and use it.

"Now the man who can effect unity of
action between the miners and the Clyde
workers is Robert Smillie, who is trusted by
both sections. Therefore, the Clyde workers
should approach Robert Smillie and offer
him their assistance and co-operation in any
measures he may decide to take to make
conscription ineffective."

The meaning of Compulsion.

An article entitled "What Con-
scription Really Means" calls on the
workers of South Wales, the Clyde,
and the Tyne, to "take the lead and
so bring the struggle to a head."

"Not only our lives, but the principles that
have been fought for by our forefathers, the
liberties that have been won by their blood,
and the destiny of our children, are all
involved in the issue. Our own lives have
been hard enough, struggling day in and
day out to keep body and soul together, and
mean though the results of our efforts have
been, how much worse would it have been
had we not benefited by those blood-won
liberties? Imagine then what a future we
are preparing for our children if we allow it
to go any further. Fellow-workers, be ye
male or female, think to what it is you are
committing your own flesh and blood. . . .

(Continued on back page)

OUR ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

	£	s.	d.
Per inch ...	0	5	0
Per column ...	2	0	0
Per half-column ...	1	2	6
Per page ...	7	10	0
Per half-page ...	4	0	0

Classified advertisements $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a word, minimum 6d. for twelve words. 5 per cent. reduction on a series of ten or more insertions; 25 per cent. reduction to working class organisations.

All communications should be sent to the—

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER,
400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

The Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London
Federation of the Suffragettes,
400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
Telephone EAST 1787.

AGENTS:

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 5 Duke Street, Chelsea, W.C.; CITY AND SUBURBAN PUBLISHING Co., St. Bride's Churchyard, E.C.; Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL & Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.; MARLBOROUGH, 51 Old Bailey, E.C.; A. RITCHIE, Fenchurch Lane, South Square, E.C.; A. RAGGETT, Clerk Street, Stepney, E.; JOHN HATWARD, Manchester; THE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, 10 Johnson Street, Bellingham.

Can be obtained at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. SMITH & SONS & Messrs. WILLING, & all Newsagents.
Annual Subscription: Post free, 4s. 4d.

Vol. II. No. 47—Sat., Feb. 12th, 1916.

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

IMPERIALISM.

For some years past a certain section of men has been demanding "a business Government," and more and more the nation is having a Government of that very kind saddled upon it.

Do not for one moment imagine that a "business Government" is a business-like Government, in the sense that that which it undertakes is carried out with efficiency and dispatch. Oh no! A "business Government" is merely one which is especially adapted to forwarding the interests of the great traders and financiers.

The two momentous announcements which have been issued by the Board of Trade this week, the one in regard to the restriction of imports during the war, and the other in regard to preparations for after-war trading, show us with startling and terrific clearness how absolutely the financial interests have obtained control of the Government, and are now ruthlessly laying plans to exploit the working-power of the vast mass of the people, with a complete disregard of the people's welfare and desires.

Limitation of Imports.

In the matter of restricting imports during the war, the Board of Trade commands that the importation of tobacco and fruit shall be stopped entirely. It is said that smokers will not be affected as there is two years' supply in bond. But the price of tobacco will certainly go up, and though the well-to-do business man will not be inconvenienced by the increased cost, the workman must either cut down his own supply of tobacco, or his wife's house-keeping allowance.

Fruit.

The stoppage of fruit imports means that fruit must cease to be eaten by working-class families, for British-grown fruits supply but a fraction of the demand, and their price will immediately become prohibitive.

It is not possible to believe that the Board of Trade can be so ignorant as to imagine that fruit is not an important part of human diet which can be dispensed with at will, without a substantial increase in the national rate of disease. It is true that Mr. McKenna told us, when we interviewed him at the Treasury, that we must reconcile ourselves to the expectation that presently the working classes will be literally unable to buy any form of food beyond bread and milk; but even Mr. McKenna admitted that the babies, at least, would "die off," as a result of the family privations.

This prohibition of fruit imports is not a mere frivolous and thoughtless forgetting of its inevitable effect on poor people; it is evidently a concession made to the insistent demands of the great landowners, who are now strongly represented in the Coalition Cabinet, and who have long agitated for the taxation of imported agricultural produce, in order to enhance the value of their own landed property.

Paper.

The imports that are to be restricted in quantity are, paper, sugar and barley—used for the manufacture of spirits. The paper limit will seriously handicap newspapers published by reformers, who are always short of money, and by crushing out some of these, will correspondingly benefit the great organs of the capitalists which have stores of wealth behind them. It will thus become increasingly difficult to fight for freedom against the steady growth of coercion.

Sugar.

The limitation of sugar imports deals yet another blow at the vitality of the nation. The price of sugar has already more than doubled since war began. Granulated sugar, which is the variety chiefly used in working-class homes, has risen from 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. in 1914 to 4d. per lb. at the present time.

The Royal Commission's announcement states that "if due care is exercised, and individual consumption is kept within reasonable limits," there will be no shortage of supply and "no ground for an increase in price." But no pledge is given that the Government will prevent the price being raised, and failing that, it is certain that this will happen. Already the high price has caused the people with small incomes to reduce consumption of sugar to the point of hardship. The German bread and butter tickets are sneered at in this country, but at least they are doled out to the rich in the same measure as to the poor!

Because of the increased price of necessities, infant mortality and physical deterioration of children and adults have greatly increased during the War. The rate of increase will now be accelerated.

No Limitation of Beer!

Barley used for the manufacture of spirits is to be limited; but not the immensely greater quantities, both of barley, maize, rice and molasses which are used for the manufacture of beer, though the tonnage required for these is 1,500,000 tons, whilst only 994,839 tons is required for fruit! The reason that no restrictions are to be placed on beer is, of course, that the brewers are rich and so strongly organised that the Tory Party always dances to their tune, and the Liberals fear to excite their displeasure. The voteless housewife has, as yet, no force strong enough to oppose the brewers' tremendous power of bribery. As for the Bishops, they are always ready to join in a scare cry, that women are taking to drink, but they never use their votes in the House of Lords to limit or purify the sale of intoxicants.

A New Way to Tariff Reform.

These Board of Trade orders, prohibiting or limiting importation will produce the same results in an intensified form as the most rigid system of protection, and these drastic measures have been introduced by order of the Cabinet without the consent of Parliament.

The Trade War.

The proposals which the Board of Trade has issued in regard to preparations for trade after the War seem to us to be preparing the way, either for a German victory or a compromise between the belligerent powers. It seems to us as though the Government were saying to the British financiers, (the financiers of the nations are behind every war) "we cannot continue fighting with guns and soldiers until the German capitalist has been driven from all the world's spheres of exploitation and the British capitalist reigns supreme, but we will presently make

the best peace terms from your point of view that we can, and continue the war in another way."

It is proposed to place the conduct of the Trade War in the hands of a Ministry of Commerce. (How many years is it that the Labour Party has asked in vain for a Ministry of Labour?)

Tariff Reform

Import taxes with preferential treatment, for the British Dominions and Britain's Allies are recommended not only on the new plea of keeping out German goods, but also on all the old stock arguments of the protectionist.

These proposals cannot have been published without the Prime Minister's knowledge, yet Mr. Asquith, who has always declared himself a Free Trader, remains in office, and the Liberal Party, the one abiding principle of which was Free Trade, shows no sign of revolt!

Joint stock banks and British financial houses are to be "invited" and "urged" to give preference to British capital, but Government departments, local authorities, and all statutory bodies spending public funds are to be legally compelled to purchase only goods produced within the British Empire. Fleecing the Government is a favourite practice, which contractors wish to extend!

But the abandonment of the free importation of goods into the United Kingdom is not the worst feature of the Board of Trade's proposals. More dangerous is the proposed extension of the practice of placing at the disposal of the private capitalist who invests his surplus wealth in a foreign country, the forces of British diplomacy and the British Army and Navy.

Lord Palmerston originated the practice in 1850, when he sent the British Fleet to Piræus to force the Greek Government to grant financial compensation to Don Pacifico, a Portuguese Jew, who had become a British subject, and who had refused to sue for redress of his alleged injury through the Greek Courts of Law.

War upon war has been fought in obedience to this principle. Great Britain, to protect the interests of Lord Rothschild and the other bondholders, occupied Egypt and crushed the Egyptian reformers who were struggling to set up a democratic Government. The South African War was fought to forward the interests of those who had invested money in the diamond mines there. Russia fought Japan in the interests of those who had invested money in a timber enterprise in the Yalu district. Indeed it is from such causes that modern wars invariably spring.

The People don't Count.

No wars are fought because a worker is sweated in a foreign country, or because a girl is entrapped by whiteslavers into a foreign brothel. It is only in the interests of trade and capital that nations fight.

The old practice of securing monopolies for British traders by means of pressure brought to bear on weaker nations by the British Government is to be extended by the Ministry of Commerce, in order to checkmate the German financier.

M. Alfred Douche, President of the French Chamber of Commerce, is calling for a united effort of the Allies to crush out German trade. He says that unless this is done at once "we shall find Germany ready to throttle us again in 15 years."

We must protest very vigorously against this view. The effort to make a ring round Germany for the benefit of the financiers, has brought us into this war.

We are not content that for such an object we shall have another massacre of the peoples.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

Owing to the arrest of Gallacher, Bell and Muir, a large number of Clyde workers downed tools on February 8th. As a result of the strike, it was announced that the defendants would each be released on £50 bail on February 10th.

John McLean has been rearrested and handed over to the Military Authorities at Edinburgh Castle.

E.L.F.S. ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The E.L.F.S. Annual Conference will take place on Sunday, February, 27th, in Bow Baths Hall, Roman Road, from 3 to 6 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Tea may be obtained at 400 Old Ford Road in the interval. The preliminary agendas for the conference and nomination papers for the E.L.F.S. officers and committee should reach members in the course of this week and additional resolutions, amendments, and nominations should reach the Hon. Secretary at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, by February 20th. Members who have changed their addresses should be sure to apply for their agendas and nomination papers to 400 Old Ford Road, as it is impossible for the organisers to trace them unless this is done.

Resolutions embodying very important changes in the constitution of the organisation have been sent in, and it is therefore most important that every member should receive the agenda and be present at the conference to record her vote.

At a meeting at the Co-operative Hall, Kensal Rise, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst was asked why she had not got into trouble with the authorities for her uncompromising use of the right of free speech. She answered: "Because I am a member of the East London Federation of the Suffragettes." Women should join the Federation, for unity is strength!

STARVING A SMALL NATION.

In Poland women and children are reported to be dying of starvation. Appeals from American Relief Committees to Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey, to let food in to relieve the inhabitants have met with an absolute refusal. These "Statesmen" excuse themselves on the plea that the hardship has been caused by the Germans and Austrians seizing for themselves the food resources of Poland, and that therefore it is the fault of the Central Powers that the Poles starve!

What has become of Britain's great humanitarian ideals, and what about protecting the small nations? The case of Poland does not differ from that of Belgium!

The Norwegian Government has decided to tax shipping, and intends to raise by this means from £80,000 to £110,000 per month.

Sir W. Runciman stated at West Hartlepool that the cost of freightage was "not only a scandal but a crime."

Yet he is the person chiefly responsible!

BAD TIME-KEEPING.

The Engineer admits that in many factories employers have "found the health of their workpeople suffering from the seven-day week." And yet these very workers have been characterised as skirkers, and their alleged "bad time-keeping" has been the excuse for passing the coercive Munitions Acts!

PUBLIC MEETING,
KENSINGTON TOWN HALL,
Friday, February 25th, 8 p.m.

Speakers:

Dr. SALEEBY
Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST
Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY

Chair:

Dr. BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY

ADMISSION FREE.

Reserved Seats 2s. 6d., 1s., 6d.

A member of the E.L.F.S. sends us the following from a soldier in France:—

From what I see in the papers, when I get a chance of seeing them, your peace friends are having a thin time these days. It's no good trying to tame a wild bull when red flags are waving all around. Their time will come, but at present all classes in England seem to take every opportunity they get of showing they want war, and lots of it. Let them have it then, and let them give us more gun fodder i.e. Infantry . . . I cannot, however, help thinking things in Germany are not going well. Their army is all right, same as ours is—it is merely a question of who gives out at home first.

The East Ham branch of the League of Rights held a most successful Concert at Essex Hall, Wakefield Street, on Wednesday, January 26th, by which £2 11s. 0d. was raised for the funds. The "Scarlet Lees" kindly gave an interesting entertainment, the violin solos by little Miss Cissie Lee being specially enjoyed. Councillor Barfield kindly presided, and Mrs. Thompson and Miss Manicom were the speakers.

Mrs. Thompson and all the workers in the branch are greatly to be congratulated.

VOTES FOR WOMEN IN MANITOBA.

Legislators and Women burst into song.

Canadian newspapers report that great enthusiasm prevailed when the Votes for Women Bill passed the Manitoba Legislature at Winnipeg on January 27th. The Speaker, the Hon. J. B. Baird, had accorded the privilege of seats on the floor of the House to a number of the women members of the executive of the Political Equality League and the galleries were filled with women.

The Bill passed unanimously and only one Member of the Legislature had a word to say against it, Joseph Hamelin, Conservative member for Ste. Rose, who said that he had opposed women's suffrage, not because he doubted the ability of women to judge legislation, but because votes for women might cause domestic troubles at election times. He did not, however, oppose the Bill, and he wished the women success in politics.

Premier Norris had introduced the Bill, but as he was away, the third reading was now moved by the Hon. T. H. Johnson, Minister of Public Works, who said that the Bill was probably the most important in a session of important measures. It had been argued, when the Bill was in course of preparation, that the pledge of the Liberal party had merely required the Government to give women the vote. But the Government considered that it would be illogical and unfair to say that women might vote, but might not be voted for. As a result, the present enactment abolished all women's political disabilities.

Mr. Johnson said he welcomed women into politics, feeling sure that their advent would mark the beginning of a great advancement in progress and enlightenment.

After the Bill had been read a third time, the women rose in the galleries and sang "O Canada" and "For they are jolly good fellows"—referring to the Members of the House. Not to be outdone, the Members rose and replied in like manner.

Suffrage Bill in Alberta.

The Prime Minister of Alberta, Mr. Sifton, is following the example of the Premier of Manitoba, for he is introducing a Government measure to give women the right to vote for, and be elected to the Alberta Legislature, and to Municipal school councils and other local bodies.

Suffrage in Canadian Federal Parliament.

The Hon. William Pugsley is meanwhile pressing forward in the Canadian Federal Parliament at Ottawa, a Bill to give votes for the Federal Parliament to the women who have won votes for the Provincial Legislatures.

SELF DENIAL WEEK.

Self Denial week for the East London Federation of the Suffragettes begins in February and all members are urged to raise as much money as they can for the work of the Federation. Collecting cards will be issued on application to Miss Smyth, the Hon. Financial Secretary, and every member is urged to take one. Members are also asked to raise money in other ways, for instance, by organising at-homes and entertainments amongst their friends, making and selling cakes, jams etc., flower selling, street and station collections and so on.

Selling the "Dreadnought."

Selling the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT is an excellent method both of raising money and spreading our propaganda. Members are asked to order in advance an extra number of DREADNOUGHTS for Self Denial week in order that we may be sure to have enough printed that week.

The rising cost of paper and production makes it especially important to help the DREADNOUGHT to keep afloat!

E.L.F.S. GENERAL MEETING,
BOW WOMEN'S HALL,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21st, at 8 p.m.

POLAND AFTER THE WAR.

By DR. G. DE SWIETOCZKOWSKI.

The greatest of all wrongs that has at any time been inflicted on Poland is her total inability to make her own voice heard amongst the peoples of Europe. And this right seems to have been denied to her even in those countries where, thanks to the powerful democratic civilisation it has become the privilege of every individual citizen to speak for himself.

Nevertheless, we believe that at the Peace Congress, which will take place after the war, the future destiny of Poland, must be dealt with, on its own account, apart from the interests of those of the great Powers who, so far from being the benefactors of Poland, have been her worst oppressors.

Though the geographical outlines of Poland are less distinct than those of Great Britain, yet there can be little doubt as to the frontier of the legitimate Polish territories. The Poles have an incontestable right to claim as their own those parts of their ancient Kingdom, where, in spite of the vigorous hostile propaganda of the neighbouring Powers, the Poles still form at least 50 per cent. of the total population, or where at least one-half of the land is in Polish hands, not to mention, of course, those provinces where all the land belongs to the Poles and where the latter are the only inhabitants. This claim would take in, besides Russian Poland, Galicia and Posen, parts of West Prussia, Silesia, Red Russia and Lithuania.

Far more even than her geography and her ethnography it is her language and her religion, not to speak of her customs and traditions, that have helped to preserve the individuality of Poland, by impressing such markedly characteristic features upon the Polish people, that no amount of national suffering can efface them.

The Poles, though Slavs by origin and character, have always been, and still are, the pioneers of Roman culture in north-western Europe. They form a Roman-Catholic wedge, driven between the Protestant world and the Greek-orthodox East. The Latin alphabet, which they use in common with western Europe, is just as great a contrast to the German Gothic, as it is different from the Russian Cyrillic characters.

But more even than her glorious past, two facts that have been recorded since the downfall of Poland, have a distinct bearing on the present situation. These are the final act in the partition of Poland, and the Congress of Vienna. The former was the *finis Poloniae*, so long coveted by our rivals. The latter was its seal, by common consent of all Europe. Whatever remnants of our past liberties remained to us after the year 1815, have since been taken away from us, one by one: the Parliament, the Army, local administration, schools, the right of organisation, in fact everything that was guaranteed by the European powers.

During the long years of slavery the destinies of each of the three parts of Poland took somewhat different courses.

In Germany the Polish people enjoyed little freedom as such; but their personal safety was guaranteed to them, no less than to all the other citizens of the German Empire.

In Russian Poland even that was denied to them; the Press, the mouthpiece of National interests, was under constant censorship, and liable to high penalties. Municipal autonomy and freedom of trade-union and other organisations were much more advanced in German Poland than in Russian Poland. Whilst in Germany the Poles were all compelled to send their children to German schools, in Russian Poland there were fewer schools at the outbreak of this war than a hundred years ago, the percentage of illiterates reaching in some parts of Poland anything between 60 and 70 per cent. There were in many places high-schools and hospitals before the partition of Poland, where now their traces are to be found in archives only.

The one part of Poland that was able to retain some of its former political freedom was Galicia, where the Poles enjoyed a far-reaching autonomy, like that promised to Ireland under Home Rule. They had their own Diets sitting in Lemberg, the Polish language was the language of the administration, the schools, law-courts, railways, post, etc. Whilst in Russia and in Germany the Poles had but a trifling share in the government of the empires to which they respectively belonged, in Austria two or three members of the Cabinet were Poles, and even the Premier was on several occasions chosen from amongst the Polish members.

The utter failure which resulted from the repeated attempts of the Poles to shake off the three foreign yokes disheartened Polish patriots, and made the idea of independence appear very remote, if not unattainable.

When a quarrel between Russia and Austria started the great European conflagration, new hopes of Polish independence were raised. The Poles, as was to be expected, were divided in their views. Partly economic, partly political considerations, carrying weight in favour of Russian, German or Austrian influence. The appeals of the three Emperors to the oppressed nation, promising freedom, liberties and independence were met with but moderate enthusiasm on the Polish side. The appeals were judged in the light of past experiences, and not on their strategic value to those who made them.

In order to be prepared to deal with all eventualities, the Poles have established provisional governments of their own in Warsaw for Russian Poland, and in Cracow for Galicia. The two Governments are now amalgamated, and are pushing forward the idea of an independent Poland as the only satisfactory solution of the Polish question. The Supreme National Council of Cracow has supported the formation of Polish Legions, fighting for the liberation of the country, under the protectorate of Austria.

Since the outbreak of this war, there have arisen two leading ideas in Poland. The one is the idea of a re-union of Poland at any price, even at the price of independence, such as was suggested by the Grand Duke's manifesto. The other is the idea of creating even one independent province, rather than giving up the idea of an independent Polish State.

None of the great powers except Italy, has as yet brought forward the independence of Poland as the solution of this grave problem.

Austria has suggested a re-union of Russian Poland with Galicia, and the admission of these re-united parts of Poland as a third partner in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.

Germany is still silent on the subject, but undoubtedly would prefer to agree to an independent Poland, than return any part of it to Russia.

The neutral powers would certainly support the independence of Poland from the humanitarian point of view.

France and England would, no doubt, welcome the stimulus which would thus be given to the democratic spirit of Europe, besides creating a new and important check to German aspirations in Europe.

Poland can only gain her independence from the coming Peace Congress, and if Albania could become a sovereign State by common consent of the Powers, how much more does Poland deserve to regain her dignity and a new possibility to live the normal life of a free and civilised nation, which she was capable of at a time when all three of her oppressors were in every respect far behind Poland?

The Local Government Board reports that the rate of pauperism in England and Wales for 1915 is the lowest on record.

This is a very pleasant state of affairs; but unfortunately we have reason to know that the percentages given do not altogether represent a decrease in poverty. They are partly produced by an increase in grinding down the poor.

A PLEA FOR WOMEN ON TRIBUNALS.

The *New Witness* says in regard to the Appeal Tribunals set up under the Military Service Act:—

There can be no objection, in our opinion, to the inclusion of women on these committees, but we should feel more satisfied if we were convinced that the women chosen by the Chairmen of County Councils and Mayors of County Boroughs, whom Mr. Walter Long has asked to furnish the names of persons qualified to serve on the Tribunals, were likely to be members of the working class. We fear, however, that this is not going to occur. Rich women will be asked to serve, and the exclusion of women of the working class is not likely to make for the efficiency of the Tribunal or the satisfaction of the workers. It cannot too often be stated that wealthy women cannot know anything of the lives or the conditions of the workers. . . . Let women serve on the Appeal Tribunals, but let the women be representative of the class from which the overwhelming majority of the troops are drawn. Above everything else, let them be wives and mothers; and let them be elected by the people, and not nominated by Mayors and Councillors.

We entirely agree with the *New Witness* on these points; but, of course, they apply equally to the men on the Tribunals.

We think it probable, however, that large numbers of women will refuse to take any part in the work of the Tribunals set up under the disgraceful Conscription Act. One cannot touch pitch without being defiled!

APPEAL TO THE BISHOPS.

The Church Socialist League has sent a memorial to the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England urging them to use their power in the House of Lords to extend the principle of conscription to include the conscription of private wealth.

The Glasgow branch of the No-Conscription Fellowship has decided to refuse to appear before Tribunals, and has communicated its decision to the Executive in London.

We believe that Glasgow has chosen the better part.

The Eccles Town Council has dismissed one of its employees, Mr. Derbyshire, a man of military age, because he is a conscientious objector.

The Mayor read a resolution of protest against the dismissal from the Eccles Brotherhood and a manifesto from 131 ratepayers, which stated that: "The action of the Eccles authorities towards one of their public servants, if persisted in, will constitute a setting aside of the law, and a disregard of the claims of conscience, which legal tribunals have been appointed to examine."

Women's International League.

At a Council Meeting of the Women's International League the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:—

(1) "That this Council holds that the Suffrage demand should be based neither on sex nor on property, but on the common humanity of men and women."

(2) "In view of recent ministerial assurances that the Parliamentary Register is going to be revised, this Council calls upon Women Suffrage Societies and all organisations that stand for democracy to unite in a demand that legislation which would enable women to vote at the next General Election shall be introduced by the Government before the end of the present Parliament."

The Women's International League, 12 Little College St., Westminster, is arranging a series of afternoon conferences at Miss Maude Royden's Flat, 111 Bedford Court Mansions, W.C., from 4 to 6.30 p.m. The speakers will include:—On Feb. 11th, Mr. H. N. Brailsford and Miss Catherine E. Marshall; on Feb. 18th, Miss A. M. Royden and Miss Sylvia Pankhurst; on Feb. 25th, Mrs. H. M. Swanwick and Miss Royden; and on March 3rd, Miss Royden and Miss Catherine Marshall. Members of the W.I.L. may bring friends. Others wishing to attend the conferences should apply beforehand to 111 Bedford Court Mansions (Tel.: Museum 1116) for an invitation.

At a conference called by the Manchester Women's War Interests Committee in Manchester, on Saturday, February 5th, the following resolution was adopted:

"That a woman displaced at the end of the war should receive through a trade union adequate out-of-work benefit, either until she gets other work or for a period to be agreed upon, and that the Government should subsidise the trade union to enable it to meet the increased unemployment benefit."

The Manchester United Suffragists held a meeting on February 6th, addressed by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Mrs. Annot Robinson and Professor Merrick. The meeting was held in Salford owing to the difficulty of obtaining halls in Manchester for any subject connected with British liberties.

A total of 2,720 establishments have now been declared controlled, under Section 4 of the Munitions of War Act.

EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

OBJECTS: To secure the Parliamentary Vote for every Woman over 21, and to promote the Social and Industrial Welfare of Women.
 Entrance Fee... 1d. Subscription... 2d. a Month

BRANCH REPORTS.

BOW.

400 OLD FORD ROAD.
 Secretary: MISS LYNCH.

Miss Mary Richardson spoke to a very appreciative audience on Tuesday afternoon. Several members who have not been with us for some time took part in the discussion. A most successful meeting was held by Mrs. Bouvier on Sunday morning at Osborne Street. Her speech was especially enjoyed by the many Russians present. 120 *Dreadnoughts* were sold, a large number of bills given away, and a collection taken. The meeting in Victoria Park was not held owing to the rain.

Miss Bennett, Miss King and Miss Mackay are thanked for helping with meetings during the week end, also those members who have been distributing anti-conscription literature.

Collections at Tuesday indoor meetings, 4s. 6d. Open-air meetings, 4s. Members' subscriptions, 16s. Miss O'Brien 1d. a week for 1916, 4s. 4d., per Mrs. Payne.

Dreadnought sales week ending Feb. 12th—1,027. Miss O'Brien 270, Mrs. Holloway 217, Miss Lynch 213, Miss Bennett 70, Miss Smyth 57, Mrs. Crabb 54, Mrs. Farrall 40, Mrs. Pascoe 19. General Sales 87.

BROMLEY.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. MANTLE,
 53 St. Leonard Street.
Dreadnought sales, per Mrs. Payne—78.

LEYTON.

On February 2nd, Mrs. Hart arranged a meeting at Leyton to form a new branch. It was most successful, eight members joining.

POPLAR.

THE WOMEN'S HALL, 20 RAILWAY ST.
 Secretary: MRS. DRAKE.

Miss Wilson was our very interesting speaker at the indoor meeting on Tuesday evening. Mr. Mackinlay, Mrs. Walshe, Mrs. Bouvier and Mrs. Bellise had good meetings on Friday and Saturday. We have tickets for our Sunday evening meetings, which can be supplied on sale or return.

Miss E. Lagsding and Mrs. Bertram are thanked for collecting; Miss Vine, Miss K. Lagsding for selling *Dreadnoughts* and distributing bills at the Babies' Milk Fund Concert.

The expenses of the Children's Party have been met and we have a balance in hand, with which it has been decided to get a *Dreadnought* poster board, to put outside the Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Road—this being the headquarters. Anybody wishing to contribute may do so.

January is over, but the subscriptions are not all in for the month. Will those members who cannot attend the meetings, send these in by their friends, as we need money to carry on our work, and with the prices rising, the need of the Vote for women is more insistent than ever. The next Social to be held by this branch will be on April 1st, at the Poplar Town Hall.

Only 240 *Dreadnoughts* sold week ending Feb. 5th. We must do better than this! Mrs. Shlette 57, Mrs. Bellise 20.

Will you try to get the nearest newsagent to stock the *Dreadnought* and keep him supplied with it?

Collections—Miss E. Lagsding £4 2s. 9d., and 3s. 4d., Mrs. Bertram 9s. 5d., Miss Morley and Miss K. Lagsding 11s. 3d., Mrs. Drake 7s. 5d. Donation to Milk Fund—Mrs. Pethick Lawrence 10s. 0d. Donations to Children's Party—Miss H. Watts 1s. 0d. Mrs. O'Connell 10d.

The piano at 20 Railway St., which we have now had for a year on February 13th, 1916, is being paid for in monthly instalments of 10s. each. During this year, however, £7 0s. 6d. have been paid, which is £1 more than what is due. This is owing to the good work of the secretary, Miss Clara Lagsding, among the members of the E.L.F.S. and those who visit the club. It has been very useful for Socials, Meetings, etc. As we wish to purchase the piano so that it will belong to this branch of the Federation, we shall be glad of subscriptions towards the balance, which is £22 7s. 6d.

Total cost of piano, 28 guineas.—C. DRAKE.

SOUTH WEST HAM.

Centre for Tidal Basin: 55 FIVE ROAD.
 Hon. Sec.—MRS. DAISY PARSONS.

Good Branch meetings were addressed by Miss Lynch and Mrs. Bouvier, and two new members were made. Members are asked to pay up subscriptions before the Annual Conference at Bow Baths Hall, on February 27th, which all should attend.

It is essential for members to go from this branch in order that we may be represented on the Committee. Please apply at once for Party tickets. Stewards should be at Fairbairn Hall at 2 o'clock on Saturday, February 19th. Secretary gratefully acknowledges 8s. that was collected by Mrs. Vine towards the 10s. that was lost.

Milk collection, 6s. 2d.—Mrs. Mears 1s. 2d., Mrs. Brown 1s. 6d., Miss Beamish 2s., Mrs. Bachmeyer 1s. 6d.
Dreadnoughts sold—169. Mrs. Millo 12, Miss Beamish 129, in Shop 20.

A MODEL LAUNDRY.—Family work a speciality. Dainty fabrics of every description treated with special care. Flannels and silks washed in distilled water. No chemicals used. Best labour only employed. Prompt collection; prompt delivery.—Bullens, Cressy House Laundry, Reynolds Road, Acton Green, W.

"THE WORKER"

(continued from front page).

"Try then, and picture what a future it will be; with militarism established as a permanent institution—at the disposal of a capitalist class operating in a country where there are no obstacles in the nature of obsolete institutions to hinder their progress. No obstacles but the working class movement. If your imagination does not fail you, then there will be no doubt as to your attitude. There should be no doubt as to how far we will go. Already the best part of our lives has been sucked out by sweating and exploitation, only to be confronted with this issue. Let us sincerely dedicate the remainder of our lives to saving our children from a form of slavery more approaching to barbarism than even our own. They may crush us, but they will never crush our principles; rather will they, by crushing us, intensify the determination of those who come after us to follow on in our steps, undaunted and courageous until the dawn of the great day, when—

'All shall be better than well.'

Treasury Agreement Broken.

An article on the Munitions Act entitled "All Things Work Together" shows that the boasted Treasury Agreement has been flagrantly broken by the employers and by the Government.

The promise that piece and premium bonus rates should remain as before "soon broke down," and skilled men who have protested "have been removed and unskilled men put on." Unskilled men, contrary to the pledge given, are paid 15s. a week less than skilled men, whose places they have taken.

Mr. Lloyd George's speech in the House of Commons, on December 20th, is quoted as follows:—

"They (the employers) must really face the local Unions, and put forward the demand, because, until they do so, the State cannot come in. We have had an Act of Parliament (The Munitions Act), but the law must be put into operation by somebody, and unless the employer begins by putting on unskilled men and women to the lathes we cannot enforce that Act of Parliament. The first step, therefore, is that the employer must challenge a decision upon the matter, and he is not doing so because of the trouble which a few firms have had. But let us do it."

It is explained that the workers fear that the present changes, introduced to benefit the employer at the workers' expense, will be permanent.

With regard to the Government Commissioners who have been sent to the Clyde to hasten the dilution of labour it is said that:—

Mr. Isaac Mitchell certainly commands no respect or sympathy in the Clyde area.

"Mr. Lynden MacAssie, as a lawyer, stands little better chance; while Sir Thomas Munro is—well, we have no idea who or what he is."

But "it makes no difference who is on the Commission."

"The only way in which the workers can be satisfied that the scheme is no menace to them is that the Government take over all the industries, and give the workers, through their organisations, a direct and equal share in the management."

This very sensible proposal, by-the-way, is the one for which Mr. Lloyd George stated that he ordered the suppression of the *Forward*. The E.L.F.S., not knowing this was the demand of the Clyde workers, quite innocently made the same suggestion to Dr. Addison at the Ministry of Munitions on September 27th, 1915.

An article entitled "This Way for Slavery, Please" warns the workers that during the next twelve months the Government may decide that every worker who earns £2 10s. a week shall be paid only 40s., and a War Loan receipt for 10s. and a promise of 5 per cent. per annum on this sum.

An article under the alarming title "Should the Workers Arm?" states that "the internal clash of armed forces" should be avoided in this country if possible, and that it is best for the workers to resort to industrial organisation.

Yet another Government Committee has been formed. This time to deal with the coal supply. Neither women nor workers are represented on it.

The object is to see that no Government work is short of fuel. If the people are left out, there will be no voice to plead their cause should there be a shortage of coal. We object to the handing over of all the nation's affairs to these non-elected bodies. What is Parliament for?

MISS LEVINSKAJA'S CONCERT.

Great success attended the concert in the Æolian Hall which Miss Maria Levinskaja most generously organised in aid of the funds of the E.L.F.S. "Mothers' Arms" in Bow and the mother and baby clinics in Bromley, Poplar and Canning Town.

The *Daily Telegraph* said of the concert:—

"Some little while ago there was in the Old Ford Road a public-house called the Gunmakers' Arms, whereat wearied and worn-out workers, their vitality sapped by the conditions under which they were born and brought up, were wont to repair as best they might the exhaustion brought about by a day's toil. To-day it is used for a very different purpose. Under the title of the 'Mothers' Arms,' it is now a Milk House, a clinic, and a day nursery, whereat children born under unhealthy conditions of frequently not too healthy parents, are strengthened by proper care and good nourishment to fight a battle in which only the strong can stand even a reasonable chance of success. How valuable such a work must be is sufficiently obvious, and it was, in consequence, good to see the Æolian Hall filled to its capacity, on Saturday afternoon, when Miss Maria Levinskaja arranged a concert there on behalf of the 'Mothers' Arms' and its offshoots in Poplar, Bromley, and Canning Town. Miss Levinskaja herself is a most accomplished pianist, and her very charming interpretations of a Ballade and Scherzo of Chopin, and of some little pieces by modern Russian writers were among the most delightful features of the programme. She was also joined by Mr. Daniel Melsa and Mr. Edward Doehaerd in Beethoven's early pianoforte trio in C minor, while both these able artists played solos with as complete success as invariably attends them. The vocalists were Madame Baron Fonariova, who is especially to be congratulated on her singing of Dargomyzsky's 'La Jeune Amoureuse,' Mr. Constantin Strocso, who made a particularly interesting choice in an old Roumanian Folk Song, arranged by Andreesco Jassy, and Mr. Bogea Oumiroff, whose acquaintance it was pleasant to renew. During the interval Miss Sylvia Pankhurst devoted her talents as a speaker to a cause, the justice of which not even the warmest of her quondam opponents could dispute."

"L'Indépendance Belge."

L'Indépendance Belge also gave an important notice of the concert:—

"The Saturday Concert at the Æolian Hall brought a great number of music lovers, who were pleased to applaud with as much conviction as enthusiasm, the great Russian pianist Miss Maria Levinskaja, in some Russian pieces by Glinka-Balakireff, and Rebikoff, as well as in the Ballade and Scherzo of Chopin. She showed great technical skill together with exceptional sentimental and emotional gifts. In Beethoven's trio in C minor, one of the masterpieces of his early period, Miss Levinskaja was assisted by those two magnificent artists, Mr. Daniel Melsa and Mr. Émile Doehaerd, so that it was no wonder that the rendering was a perfect one. . . . The Violin and Cello parts were played by both these able artists with splendid success."

As to the Vocalists, Madame Baron Fonariova proved herself, by her charming interpretations of Tchaicowsky and Chausson, to be a singer endowed, not only with a magnificent voice, but with perfect knowledge of the art of singing.

Mr. Bogea Oumiroff, Miss Levinskaja's compatriot, and pupil of the famous Professor Faure, gave several songs of the XVIII. century, and some Russian and Czech folk songs, all of which were received with great enthusiasm. Mr. Constantin Strocso, a high-class tenor, sang an old Roumanian song, and Duparc's Chanson Triste, with much sentiment and magnificent diction.

We have both to congratulate and to warmly thank Miss Levinskaja for the most delightful afternoon which she organised with such a brilliant success for herself, for her colleagues, and for the benefit of the funds of the "Mothers' Arms" and Babies' Milk and Clinics in East London."

The E.L.F.S. also tenders its most grateful thanks to Miss Levinskaja and her friends, who so kindly gave their services to help the babies.

"OUR WOUNDED HEROES."

A lame soldier, suffering from frost-bite, who had been discharged from the Coldstream Guards, stated at Lambeth Police Court on February 7th, that he was getting nothing from the Army and could not pay his wife's maintenance.

The chief warrant officer said the authorities had decided that the soldier was not entitled to a pension. There were many men who received nothing when discharged.

Is this how we show our gratitude to "wounded heroes?"

BULLYING THE LANDLADY.

At Margate, Miss Clarke, a land lady, whose boarders had repeatedly failed to turn off the light at 11.15 p.m., provided them with candles and turned off the light at that hour to avoid further trouble.

An officer, who was staying there, banged at her bedroom door because of this, and finally fetched two soldiers armed with rifles and fixed bayonets and forced Miss Clarke to come out and put on the light. The lady was in her dressing gown, and asked to be allowed to dress before going with the soldiers, but they refused to allow her to shut her door.

We are glad the Judge condemned the officer to pay £250, but wonder how any soldier can go to fight "to protect" the women of this country and then act in this manner! This is just the sort of soldierly bullying that has caused revolt against Prussian militarism in Alsace.

BULLIED BY LANDLORDS.

A correspondent from Barking writes to say that the rent of the houses in a whole street have been raised from 5s. 6d. to 7s., and from 7s. and 7s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. and 8s.

Through the intervention of the Women's Labour League, the women tenants plucked up courage to refuse to pay the increase, with the result that the landlord accepted the pre-war rent.

The I.L.P. wrote to the Barking Council, but as the majority of the Councillors are landlords they passed over the matter as being "none of their business."

But the Labour representatives urged that an explanation of the Rent Act should be issued to the people. The local newspapers took the matter up, and as a result the landlord has now become humble, and even asks what the tenants would like done!

At West London County Court on the 7th inst., the case of Mr. John Eagle was heard. His landlord tried to have him ejected, pleading that he wanted the house for himself, as his own was too small.

The Judge said he was not satisfied with the reasons given, and did not grant the ejectment.

A good result of the Rent Act!

An application for an ejectment order against an old man, who lived in one room in Old Kent Road, S.E., was refused at Marylebone Police Court, on the 3rd inst.

The landlord wanted to eject the poor man because he could only afford one room. We are glad that the magistrate decided to be humane, for who that has the wherewith-all to pay for more would choose to live in one room?

It is interesting to learn that the L.C.C. were amongst the landlords who raised rents since the war; the Rent Act has caused them to reduce to pre-war prices now!

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—Miss Hinton 2.0.0, Miss A. Gilliat 5.0, Miss D. Hollins 10.6.

DREADNOUGHT FUND.—Miss Buchan 3.0.0, Miss D. L. Hollins 1.1.0, The Rev. E. Warlow 5.0, Free Lance 1.0.

FOR MILK & GENERAL DISTRESS.—Mrs. Sadd-Brown (monthly) 3.0.0, Lady Felicia Wallace 3.0.0, Mrs. Baillie Weaver (monthly) 2.0.0, T. R. Mudie, Esq. 2.0.0, Mrs. Bell 1.10.0, Per Miss Handley 1.10.0, Miss B. Putnam 1.0.6, Miss G. L. Smyth (monthly) 1.0.0, The Misses Mann (monthly) 1.0.0, The Misses Gliksten (monthly) 1.0.0, Miss M. Trelawney (annually) 1.0.0, Mrs. Richmond (5.0 weekly) 10.0, G. & N. 10.0, Miss E. Raisin (monthly) 10.0, Miss E. Jacobs 10.0, Mrs. S. Branch 10.0, Mrs. Stephenson 10.0, Miss Beesley 10.0, Miss L. M. Burroughs 10.0, J. Kennedy, Esq. 10.0, The Misses Barrowman & D. Wilkie, Esq. 7.6, Miss O'Brien 5.0, Lionel Glave, Esq. 5.0, The Misses Bellamy & Sanderson (monthly) 5.0, A Woman Worker—Stockport (2.6 monthly) 5.0, Four Northern Men (monthly) 5.0, Miss Renthe and friend (monthly) 5.0, Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly) 5.0, Mrs. Behrend 5.0, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.6, Mrs. Graves 2.6, Mrs. Bulloch 2.0, Per Miss J. E. Weir, 1.3, A Clifford Ewan, Esq. 1.0, Per Mr. Everett 0.6.

COLLECTIONS.—Æolian Hall, per Miss Lagsding 4.2.9½, Æolian Hall collection 3.15.5½, Toolroom, etc. L.S.A. 1.8.6½, Bow Clinic collection 1.1.3½, Kensal Rise and W. Kilburn I.L.P. 1.0.0, Mrs. Crabb 16.9, Bromley milk 11.7, Indoor meetings—Bow 4.6, Miss Lynch 4.3, Open Air meetings—Bow 4.0, Miss Beamish 2.0, Canning Town Milk collection 1.9, Mrs. Bachmeyer 1.6, Mrs. Brown 1.6, Mrs. Mears 1.2½.

CLOTHING, ETC.—Mrs. Skeen, Anon, Miss N. Grey, Miss Myra K. Hughes, Anon, Miss Broadbent, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Bates, Miss Handley.

Gifts for the Canning Town Children's Party, on Feb. 10th, are urgently needed. Odds and ends of Wool to make Wool Balls would be exceedingly useful. All Gifts, etc., to be addressed to Miss Beamish, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

Our next issue will contain a special article by Dr. Ella Scarlett Syngé on her experiences in Serbia and in the German Internment Camps.